

# **Saskatchewan LIBERAL HANDBOOK**

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**1929**

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**A Record  
of Substantial Achievement  
A Sound Financial Position,  
Unprecedented Growth and  
Wise Progressive  
Administration**

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*Published by authority of the Saskatchewan Liberal Association*



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*Who Is Responsible  
for the Introduction  
of Race and Religion  
Into the Discussion  
of Public Questions  
In Saskatchewan ?*

**READ THE EVIDENCE**



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Liberal Association.

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## Who Is Responsible for the Introduction of Race and Religion Into the Discussion of Public Questions in Saskatchewan?

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THE LEADER of the Saskatchewan Conservative party, Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, aided and abetted by J. F. Bryant, J. J. Maloney, the Regina Daily Star, and others of his party following, having introduced questions of race and religion into the arena of Provincial politics, is now seeking a way out of the dilemma he has thus created for himself and to shoulder the responsibility onto Premier Gardiner and place on the Government the onus and stigma which actually attaches to himself and the Tory party.

The introduction of appeals to racial and religious prejudices and passions by Dr. Anderson and his supporters is not a matter of the past few months only. They have been engaged for a long time in stirring up these bitter feelings in the hope of turning them to account against the Government. The campaign has not always, nor for the most part, been conducted openly. Rather, like a snake in the grass, it was insidiously and quietly suggested and passed on. Or, to change the metaphor, it was started like an incipient prairie fire here and there, and fanned and developed almost unnoticed just as fire worms its way through the stubble and grass roots. In the Arm River by-election it burst into flame.

When the heat of that by-election had died down, and he counted his losses not only there but throughout the Province, Dr. Anderson began to shift ground and he would now like the people of Saskatchewan to believe that not he but Premier Gardiner was responsible for introducing race and religion into the discussion of Saskatchewan's public affairs. But the record is all against him and his party. It is a lengthy record, but a few incidents will suffice to establish the facts and the truth.

## Anderson's Campaign in 1924 and 1925

Speaking from the public platform at Melfort five years ago, Dr. Anderson is reported in *The Melfort Journal* of May 6, 1924, as having stated:

"The English language is in general use in the district and there was no foreign problem to deal with there. But conditions in other parts are deplorable and it was up to the Conservatives to remedy them. Schools were being closed down for lack of funds and there must be something wrong when a government allows that. In one particular locality of alien population there was a reign of terrorism going on, blackmailing and buildings being burnt down, the rural municipality's books were in the hands of the auditors and a solicitor had been threatened violence if he did not leave town."

Speaking at Rouleau, Dr. Anderson is reported in the *Moose Jaw Times* of February 6, 1925, to have said:

"In some districts the pupils are being taught to ignore our sovereign and refuse to sing the National Anthem. Such evils must be removed."

The *Saskatoon Star* of March 9, 1925, reports Dr. Anderson in a speech at Melfort, as follows:

"The speaker also urged that steps should be taken to prevent early marriages in foreign districts. He stated it was **no uncommon thing** that a girl of 13 or 14 should be married to a man of 40 and over. Was this in the interests of the Province?"

(NOTE—Hon. Dr. Uhrich, whose department has charge of the vital statistics of Saskatchewan, replied that in the preceding five years out of a total of 25,289 marriages there had been only five cases where a girl of 13 years and seven cases where a girl of 14 years had married anyone anywhere in the Province.)

## **The Campaign Against King and Dunning.**

Then came the Federal by-election in Prince Albert in 1926, Premier W. L. Mackenzie King being the Liberal candidate. The Toronto Telegram, ultra-Tory, sent in a representative who took up his quarters in the organization office of the Opposition, which was largely under the direction of Mr. Agnew, a leading Conservative of Prince Albert. Into that campaign came also W. S. Haney, Conservative Member of the Ontario House from West Lambton, and J. J. Maloney, of Hamilton, since well known as anti-Catholic and pro-Klan speaker in Saskatchewan, as well as \$500.00 by way of donation to the campaign funds of the Opposition from F. J. D. Barnjum, Conservative Member of the Nova Scotia Assembly. A number of quotations from the Toronto Telegram will indicate the nature of the campaign against the Liberals as well as the object of the campaign:

Toronto Telegram, January 8, 1926: "Canada must be delivered from the political Scandal and National danger of the W. L. M. King premiership. That deliverance might be wrought by a party that follows A Soldier."

Toronto Telegram Editorial, February 2, 1926: "Capt. Burgess has offered the Canadians of Prince Albert a chance to stand up and be counted on behalf of their country's conviction that the premiership of Hon. W. L. M. King is nothing short of a dishonor, a danger and a calamity to Canada. The Old Country-born Premier of Saskatchewan, Hon. C. A. Dunning, can muster his legions for a typical Saskatchewan by-election. The procedure of the Dunning Machine and its legions will exploit the reasons for Hon. C. A. Dunning's isolation from the overwhelming majority of Old Country-born voters in Canada."

Toronto Telegram, February 9, 1926, describing Hon. Dr. Uhrich's meeting at Duck Lake: "The gathering and proceedings might have been transported bodily from the Province of Quebec. The language the audience used in conversation as they awaited the speakers was that which is heard along the St. Law-

rence. Part of the decorations of the hall consisted of a huge tri-colored flag. On the other side of the room was a Stars and Stripes almost as big. Tacked across a window was a faded and tattered Union Jack." (Why did not The Telegram reporter continue with the words "which indicated that the Union Jack was most used." Because it would not serve the Tory purpose.)

On February 12, 1926, the following appeared in the news columns of the Toronto Telegram:

### **BRITISH ARE FEW**

#### **Small Settlements of English Speaking Are Lost Among the Crowd of Continental "New Canadians" in Prince Albert.**

Prince Albert, Sask., Feb. 12 — (Staff Special)—Immigration policies of Liberal Governments have given the population of Saskatchewan a cosmopolite cast that makes it a veritable Ark of the human species. To the English, Irish, Scotch and French, who shared its area in the long ago of the late seventies, have been added Mennonites, Doukhobors, Russians, Swiss, Italian, Galician, Germans, Norwegians, Swedes and Danes, and if any European race has been overlooked it must have been an error on the part of the immigration officials."

And when the election was over, and Premier King elected by an enormous majority, the Toronto Telegram editorially said: "Only candidate who could carry a typical Saskatchewan Liberal constituency against the Liberal candidate, Hon. W. L. M. King, or other anti-Conservative candidate would be The Kaiser, the Crown Prince, or Hindenburg, and not one of the three was nominated in Prince Albert."

What was the object of the campaign in Prince Albert? It was not that the Tory opposition had any hope of defeating Premier King. The answer is found in the Toronto Telegram which on the day of the election editorially declared.

"Old Country-born voters were asked to support Hon. C. A. Dunning as an Old Country-born Leader.

"By-election in Prince Albert has shown up Mr. Dunning as the straw boss of a party machine, European in its alliances, American in its election methods.

"Let the Hon. C. A. Dunning machine raise its head in the presence of Old Country voters, especially returned soldiers. Prince Albert election fight has shown up Hon. C. A. Dunning once and for all."

Two days later the Toronto Telegram returned to the attack, saying editorially:

"Canada has to thank Capt. D. S. Burgess, M.C. of Saskatchewan, and Capt. Wilfred S. Haney, M.P.P. of Ontario, for entirely destroying the Parliamentary and political value of Hon. C. A. Dunning, premier of Saskatchewan. Old Country-born voters were in danger of being duped and decoyed into the Liberal ranks by the legend that was being built up around the common place personality of Hon. C. A. Dunning."

### **Saskatchewan's Liberal Government the Target**

Thus the real object of all these scurrilous racial attacks, even in a Federal by-election, was the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan. It was a typical Ontario Tory campaign concerned with old animosities, prejudices and passions, rather than with the political issues of the day. The electors of Prince Albert rejected it with scorn, rolling up a huge majority for Premier King in all parts of the constituency, the English-speaking districts vieing with the voters of non-British origin in condemnation of appeals which should never be countenanced in the interests of national unity in Canada.

### **Anderson's Party Re-opens the Campaign**

Even so, Dr. Anderson and the Saskatchewan Tory party did not learn their lesson for we find them giving every encouragement to the same kind of cam-



paign in 1927 and 1928, growing bolder as time passed. Thus in addressing an Orange Celebration at Watrous, as reported in the Saskatoon Star on July 14, 1928, Mr. Adrain, Dr. Anderson's candidate in Arm River, used this language:

"Did the Orange Order in the Great War contribute her share to procure for the world these great principles, liberty and justice upon which the Order is founded? They gave their lives that Canada might be free. Behind them on many fields of battle were the ideals of liberty, justice and equal rights to all people. Where were our Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen? Putting every obstacle in the way of the Government of the country to the successful carrying on of the war. The only Province that refused to do its duty was the one where Romanism is dominant and where the priests rule."

Then the Arm River by-election was called, and Dr. Anderson summoned the faithful from all parts of the Province to carry that seat and thus, as he proclaimed, sound the death-knell of the Liberal Government in Saskatchewan. His chief lieutenant in that fight, and the one to whom the party organ, the Regina Daily Star, gave even greater prominence than it did to the party leader, was J. F. Bryant, of Regina, vice-president of the Saskatchewan Conservative Association, president of the Regina City Conservative Association, Tory candidate in the constituency of Lumsden. Dr. Anderson would now like to place the onus for the introduction of race and religion in our political discussions upon Premier Gardiner, solely because the latter took bold issue with the kind of campaign being waged by the Conservatives and the Ku Klux Klan. But listen to his principal platform orator, J. F. Bryant:

### **Bryant's Bitter Racial and Religious Utterances**

Speaking at Davidson, October 15, 1928, Mr. Bryant claimed:

"That the immigration policy of the Canadian Government was influenced by the Catholic bishops of Quebec. He alleged that in Saskatchewan religious discord had been created, the Liberals paying more attention to party success than the future progress of the country. Protestant immigrants are apparently not wanted. Government officials raise difficulties in the way of British immigrants to Canada but immigrants from central Europe were brought in constantly increasing numbers."

A few days later at Imperial, Mr. Bryant used these words: "The issues in the present campaign were not made by the Liberal party but by the Church of Rome. French Catholics had expressed their readiness to work for the defence of the Roman Catholic faith which was aiming at temporal power. The Liberal party at Ottawa and the Gardiner Government of Saskatchewan have lined up with the forces of the Church of Rome."

The Regina Daily Star, which, as already noted, gave particular prominence to Mr. Bryant's campaign speeches, reports him as saying at Davidson:

"Canada wants British folk. But the Roman Catholic Church, the Province of Quebec and the Liberal party as now constituted don't want them . . . . Within five years or ten at the most under present political conditions, Roman Catholics will be in the majority in Saskatchewan, and the French will control the destinies of Quebec, Saskatchewan and all of Canada."

After the election and the return of the Liberal candidate, what happened? The Regina Daily Star, Dr. Anderson's servile supporter, commenting editorially on the result, said:

"The Premier had the support of a large foreign vote, as usual, but even in this the Opposition manifested an increasing strength.

None the less it was a foreign vote that elected Dr. Waugh . . . . Dr. Waugh, if and when he takes his seat in the Legislature will not represent the public opinion of Arm River, but of one section—Lakeside. He will thus be able to sign himself 'Member for Lakeside'."

### **Anderson's Insult to All Catholics**

And what did Dr. Anderson himself say? Commenting on the result on the night of the election he used these words:

"It will not escape the attention of the public that a small poll at Lakeside near Holdfast, where the majority of electors are Roman Catholics, are working hand in glove with Premier J. G. Gardiner. The Conservative party believes in a square deal for all, but they do not believe in getting down on their knees to solicit the support of any individual or organization whose aims do not emphasize the Union Jack and 100 per cent. Canadian citizenship."

Dr. Anderson and his chief supporters travel the Province dragging the educational system of Saskatchewan through the mire of partizan politics, flinging criticisms right and left at Saskatchewan citizens and electors who cannot claim to be of British birth or descent, and impugning all sorts of disloyalties to people who do not worship at the same altar as themselves, and then, because these people whom they have villified and condemned do not turn round and vote confidence in them and the Tory party they represent, Dr. Anderson finds in their lack of support proof positive of Premier Gardiner's perfidy, lack of patriotism, and determination to destroy everything British and Protestant in this Province. And, to cap the climax, he denies that he has been guilty of these things and charges that it is Premier Gardiner and the Liberal party who are the culprits.

People's memories may be short, but they carry

back to the Arm River by-election of last October, and to the campaign waged by Dr. Anderson and his party at that time, a campaign which outraged the finer sensibilities of the people of Saskatchewan and brought deserved defeat upon the Tory party.

The people of Saskatchewan are not fools even though Dr. Anderson is proceeding on the assumption that they are.

### **Tories Raised Same Cries in Past Elections**

Hon. Walter Scott when premier was charged with having bowed the knee to Rome and made the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan a portal to the Vatican solely because his interpretation of the School Act was not to the liking of his political opponents, but an interpretation which was unanimously held to be the correct one by the Privy Council, the highest legal tribunal of the Empire.

Hon. W. M. Martin, who followed Mr. Scott in the premiership, was subjected to the same abuse and line of attack, and found it necessary to vigorously defend himself and his Government in a series of now historical meetings.

Extracts quoted in this pamphlet reveal the nature of the Tory attack made on Hon. C. A. Dunning when he was the chosen leader of Government, chosen by vote of the people of this Province.

And now it is Hon. J. G. Gardiner's turn to be the target for the venomous darts of Anderson, Bryant, Maloney, et al.

The political history of Saskatchewan reveals that the Scott Government went on from strength to strength; that the Martin Government increased in the confidence of the people; that the Dunning Government was accorded still further confidence and support, so large a measure of support, in fact, that the Conservative party was all but annihilated in the last two elections.

### **History Will Repeat Itself**

And history will repeat itself in the triumphant return of the Gardiner Government, and in the administration of another wholesale condemnation of

those tactics which have made the name of the Tory party a by-word and a reproach in this Province.

Nor will the patent absurdity and weakness of Dr. Anderson's attempt to shift responsibility onto Premier Gardiner be lost on the people of Saskatchewan. They know that Governments do not raise cries of this character, but that Oppositions, desperate because of lack of real ground of criticism, do indulge in just such methods to becloud real issues and direct attention from the Government's constructive policies, programmes and administration.

Governments desire peace, order and contentment; Oppositions thrive on turmoil, the arousing of suspicions, prejudices and public dissatisfaction.

Dr. Anderson is now asking people to believe something which their own knowledge of public affairs and their common sense lead them absolutely to reject.



# **Co-operation**

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**Has Been  
Is  
Will Be**

**The GUIDING PRINCIPLE  
and POLICY**

**of the**

**SASKATCHEWAN  
LIBERAL  
GOVERNMENT**